

Response to Final Office Action
Docket No. A0988
Attorney Docket No. 022.0522.US.UTL

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (previously presented): A method for displaying an e-mail
2 collection, the e-mail collection including a plurality of e-mail messages assigned
3 to one or more categories and subcategories, the method comprising:
4 defining a display specification to specify a manner in which e-mail
5 messages assigned into each of the categories and subcategories are to be
6 displayed in a top-level representation, comprising each of:
7 specifying a plurality of category-specific arrangements of e-mail
8 messages in differing levels of granularity that are specific to the categories and
9 subcategories to which the e-mail messages are assigned;
10 specifying a plurality of display-specific arrangements of e-mail
11 messages in differing levels of granularity that are specific to the display to which
12 the e-mail messages are assigned; and
13 specifying a plurality of layouts of the category-specific
14 arrangements and the display-specific arrangements that are specific to the display
15 upon which the e-mail messages are displayed; and
16 displaying each of the e-mail messages in accordance with the display
17 specification using the category-specific arrangement and the display-specific
18 arrangement for the category or subcategory to which the e-mail message is
19 assigned, and using the layout for the display upon which the e-mail message is
20 displayed.
- 1 2. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 receiving a plurality of the display specifications from a user;
3 storing the received display specifications;
4 receiving a user selection of one of the plurality of stored display
5 specifications; and

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6 displaying the e-mail collection in accordance with the user selected
7 display specification.

1 3. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the e-mail messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated into threads, and that the top-level
4 display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from each thread.

1 4. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated in the corresponding category, and
4 that the top-level display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from the
5 corresponding category.

1 5. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification includes a plurality of user-defined rule-based categories, wherein at
3 least one of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories is nested within
4 another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories, and wherein the
5 nested user-defined rule-based category is displayed differently than the another
6 of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories.

1 6. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 providing an editor window display which lists the plurality of categories
3 and a plurality of message display alternatives for the top-level representation of
4 the e-mail collection and each of the plurality of categories; and
5 receiving and storing a user selection of one of the plurality of message
6 display alternatives for at least one of the plurality of categories.

1 7. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 providing at least one tool button on the top-level representation of the e-
3 mail collection that is adapted to receive a user command to perform an operation
4 on one or more messages associated with an identified item; and

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5 performing the operation on the one or more messages associated with the
6 identified item in response to a user operation of the tool button.[[.]]

1 8. (previously presented): A computer controlled display system for
2 displaying an e-mail collection, the e-mail collection including a plurality of e-
3 mail messages assigned to one or more categories and subcategories, the system
4 comprising:
5 a display specification defined to specify a manner in which e-mail
6 messages assigned into each of the categories and subcategories are to be
7 displayed in a top-level representation, comprising each of:
8 a plurality of category-specific arrangements of e-mail messages in
9 differing levels of granularity that are specific to the categories and subcategories
10 to which the e-mail messages are assigned;
11 a plurality of display-specific arrangements of e-mail messages in
12 differing levels of granularity that are specific to the display to which the e-mail
13 messages are assigned; and
14 a plurality of layouts of the category-specific arrangements and the
15 display-specific arrangements that are specific to the display upon which the e-
16 mail messages are displayed;
17 a display for presenting the e-mail messages on a viewing area of the
18 display; and
19 a processor that is adapted to control the display to display each of the e-
20 mail messages in accordance with the display specification using the category-
21 specific arrangement and the display-specific arrangement for the category or
22 subcategory to which the e-mail message is assigned, and using the layout for the
23 display upon which the e-mail message is displayed.

1 9. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted to:
3 receive a plurality of the display specifications from a user;

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4 store the received display specifications;
5 receive a user selection of one of the plurality of stored display
6 specifications; and
7 display the e-mail collection in accordance with the user selected display
8 specification.

1 10. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the e-mail messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated into threads, and that the top-level
4 display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from each thread.

1 11. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated in the corresponding category, and
4 that the top-level display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from the
5 corresponding category.

1 12. (currently amended): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification includes a plurality of user-defined rule-based definitions of
3 categories, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-defined rule-based
4 categories is nested within another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based
5 categories, and wherein the nested user-defined rule-based category is displayed
6 differently than the another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based
7 categories.[[.]]

1 13. (currently amended): The system of claim 8, wherein the processor
2 is further adapted:
3 to provide an editor window display which lists the plurality of categories
4 and a plurality of message display alternatives for the top-level representation of
5 the e-mail collection and each of the plurality of categories; and

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6 to receive and store a user selection of one of the plurality of message
7 display alternatives for at least one of the plurality of categories.

1 14. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted:
3 to provide a tool button on the top-level representation of the e-mail
4 collection that is adapted to receive a user command to delete messages associated
5 with an identified item; and
6 to delete the messages associated with the identified item in response to a
7 user operation of the tool button.

1 15. (currently amended): The system of claim 8, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted:
3 to receive a user command from at least one tool button on the top-level
4 representation of the e-mail collection; and
5 to perform the operation on the one or more messages associated with the
6 identified item in response to a user operation of the tool button.

1 16. (previously presented): An information storage media comprising
2 information that displays an e-mail collection, the e-mail collection including a
3 plurality of e-mail messages assigned to one or more categories and
4 subcategories, the information comprising:
5 a display specification to specify a manner in which e-mail messages
6 assigned into each of the categories and subcategories are to be displayed in a top-
7 level representation, comprising each of:
8 a plurality of category-specific arrangements of e-mail messages in
9 differing levels of granularity that are specific to the categories and subcategories
10 to which the e-mail messages are assigned;
11 a plurality of display-specific arrangements of e-mail messages in
12 differing levels of granularity that are specific to the display to which the e-mail
13 messages are assigned; and

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14 a plurality of layouts of the category-specific arrangements and the
15 display-specific arrangements that are specific to the display upon which the e-
16 mail messages are displayed; and
17 information that displays each of the e-mail messages in accordance with
18 the display specification using the category-specific arrangement and the display-
19 specific arrangement for the category or subcategory to which the e-mail message
20 is assigned, and using the layout for the display upon which the e-mail message is
21 displayed.

1 17. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, further comprising:
2 information that receives a plurality of the display specifications from a
3 user; information that stores the received display specifications;
4 information that receives a user selection of one of the plurality of stored
5 display specifications; and
6 information that displays the e-mail collection, in accordance with the user
7 selected display specification.

1 18. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the e-mail messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated into threads, and that the top-level
4 display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from each thread.

1 19. (currently amended): The media of claim 16, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated in the corresponding category, and
4 that the top-level display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from the
5 corresponding category.

1 20. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, wherein the
2 display specification includes a plurality of user-defined rule-based categories,
3 wherein at least one of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories is nested

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4 within another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories, and wherein
5 the nested user-defined rule-based category is displayed differently than the
6 another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories.

1 21. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, further comprising:
2 information that provides an editor window display which lists the
3 plurality of categories and a plurality of message display alternatives for the top-
4 level representation of the e-mail collection and each of the plurality of
5 categories; and
6 information that receives and stores a user selection of one of the plurality
7 of message display alternatives for at least one of the plurality of categories.

1 22. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, further comprising
2 information that:
3 receives a user command via at least one tool button on the top-level
4 representation of the e-mail collection that is adapted to receive a user command
5 to perform an operation on one or more messages associated with an identified
6 item; and
7 performs the operation on the one or more messages associated with the
8 identified item in response to a user operation of the tool button.

1 23. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the messages
2 within the categories and subcategories may be displayed as at least two [[of:]]
3 messages[[:]], threads[[:]], and groups.

1 24. (currently amended): The system of claim 8, wherein the messages
2 within the categories and subcategories may be displayed as at least two [[of:]]
3 messages[[:]], threads[[:]], and groups.

1 25. (currently amended): The media of claim 16, wherein the wherein
2 the messages within the categories and subcategories may be displayed as at least
3 two [[of:]] messages[[:]], threads[[:]], and groups.

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1 26. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification provides that each of the messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are displayed separately in the top-level display of
4 the entire e-mail collection.

1 27. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification provides that at least one of the plurality of categories and
3 subcategories, and each of the messages categorized therein, is to be omitted from
4 the top-level display of the entire e-mail collection.

1 28. (currently amended): The method of claim 7, further comprising:
2 supplying a tool button associated with an item requesting expansion of
3 the item[[]]; and
4 if the expansion is requested, differentially performing the expansion of
5 the item.

1 29. (previously presented): The method of claim 28, further
2 comprising expanding an item representing an entire category or subcategory on
3 the top-level representation of the e-mail collection by displaying a list of threads
4 whose messages are categorized within the category or subcategory selected for
5 expansion.

1 30. (previously presented): The method of claim 28, further
2 comprising expanding an item representing an individual thread on the top-level
3 representation of the e-mail collection by displaying the messages associated with
4 the selected thread as a single document represented by a tree-like thread structure
5 including at least one initial part of each of the messages.

1 31. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification provides that each of the messages in at least one of the plurality of

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3 categories and subcategories are displayed separately in the top-level display of
4 the entire e-mail collection.

1 32. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification provides that at least one of the plurality of categories and
3 subcategories, and each of the messages categorized therein, is to be omitted from
4 the top-level display of the entire e-mail collection.

1 33. (previously presented): The method of claim 15, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted:
3 to receive a user command from a tool button associated with an item
4 requesting expansion of the item; and
5 if the expansion is requested, to differentially perform the expansion of the
6 item.

1 34. (previously presented): The method of claim 33, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted to expand an item representing an entire category or
3 subcategory on the top-level representation of the e-mail collection by displaying
4 a list of threads whose messages are categorized within the category or
5 subcategory selected for expansion.

1 35. (previously presented): The method of claim 33, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted to expand an item representing an individual thread
3 on the top-level representation of the e-mail collection by displaying the messages
4 associated with the selected thread as a single document represented by a tree-like
5 thread structure including at least one initial part of each of the messages.